

Library Quarterly

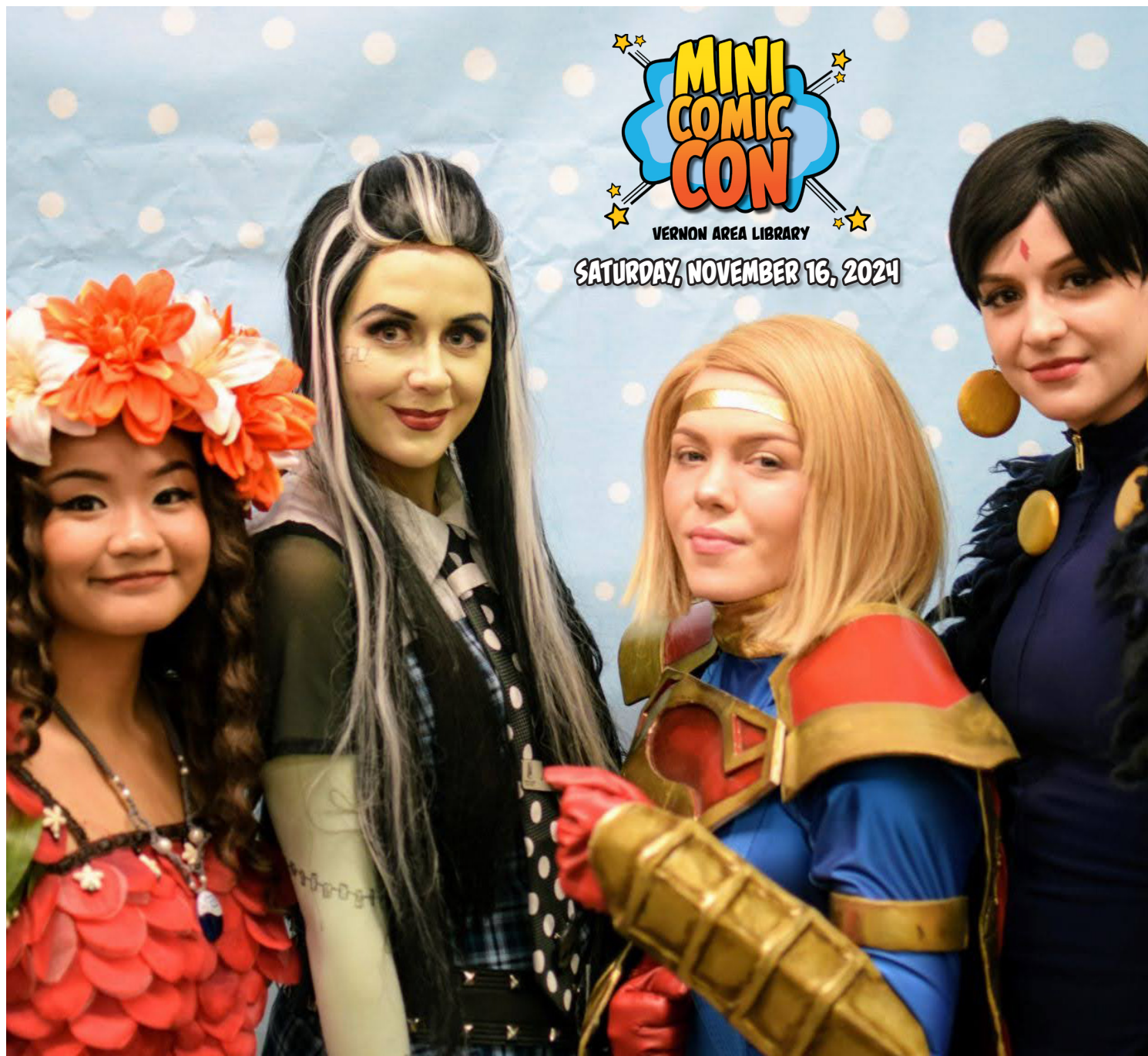
FALL 2024

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the magazine of the Vernon Area Public Library



Message from the Director

I'd like to take a moment to share some of the Library Team's work that we believe is contributing to your positive experiences in the library. In addition to our outstanding staff who provide you with quality services and programs 74 hours a week, in the past year, Vernon Area Public Library improved our services in the following notable ways:

- Joined the Digital Library of Illinois consortium, adding access to nearly 300,000 additional e-books and e-audiobooks. (Read more about this upgrade on page 11.)
- Implemented auto-renewal, smoothing that process for many items.
- Moved to a new mobile app vendor with more reliable access.
- Simplified Copy Center and public computer access.
- Installed two new study booths.
- Expanded services for English Language Learners.
- Refreshed the Library Learning Garden, adding new accessible garden beds, additional outdoor seating, and a StoryWalk.
- Expanded outdoor programming, including our first "Summer in the 'Shire" concert with the Village of Lincolnshire.
- Began a nonprofit networking group with community partners.
- Introduced a yearlong reading program for adults.
- Created a Political Scientist in Residence post in the hopes of increasing civic engagement in our community.

We hope you are enjoying these changes! Our dedicated library staff are always seeking ways to provide the community with innovative ways to inspire curiosity and foster a sense of belonging and community. Please reach out to me if you have additional ideas at director@VAPLD.info — I would enjoy hearing from you.

Vernon Area Public Library

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Community Events

Connect with us at these fall events for information, activities, and giveaways.

Buffalo Grove Farmers Market

Sunday, September 8, 8 am–12:30 pm

🌿 Mike Rylko Park

Vernon Township Mental Health Fair

Saturday, September 21, 10 am–12 pm

🏛️ Vernon Township Community Services Building

Green Fair

Sunday, September 22, 8 am–12:30 pm

🌿 Mike Rylko Park

Hire Lake County Job Fair

Monday, September 23, 11 am–1:30 pm

🏛️ Lincolnshire Marriott

Diwali Festival

Sunday, October 20, 2–5 pm

🏛️ Buffalo Grove Community Arts Center

Lincolnshire Boo Bash

Friday, October 25, 5–8 pm

🌿 North Park



▲ Little Free Book & Seed Library

There is a new Little Free Library behind the main building in the Library Learning Garden. Stop by any time during daylight hours to pick up seed packets or a new book to read.



VERNON AREA LIBRARY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024

10 AM - 3 PM

ACTIVITIES • ARTIST ALLEY • GIVEAWAYS

You are invited to this free, all-ages, full-day celebration of fandoms of every flavor. Whether it's a beloved book series, comic, movie, or game you can't get enough of — all pop culture obsessions are welcome and costumes are encouraged!

VAPLD.INFO/MINICOMICCON



Library Foundation Update

The Foundation for the Vernon Area Public Library District may be small, but we are mighty. In our first year of full operations and fundraising, we have accomplished some impressive feats for the benefit of library patrons!

To start, we helped address pandemic-related learning loss in our community by working to re-energize the library's summer reading program. By partnering with local businesses, the Foundation was able to provide a free "READ" t-shirt to the first 1000 kids who signed up for Summer Library Club, helping boost participation and excitement.

We also helped add a new StoryWalk in the Library Learning Garden. The colorful picture book pathway brings families together in nature and supports early literacy and physical health. If you have not yet visited the Library Learning Garden, please stop by. It is located behind the main building next to the annex and is open during daylight hours until the season changes.

These exciting successes have inspired us to reach even higher. We are taking the occasion of the



1000 kids received a free t-shirt when they signed up for Summer Library Club 2024

library's 50th anniversary to hold an adults-only after-hours party this November. Proceeds from event sponsors and ticket sales will support library projects such as building improvements and new "Library of Things" equipment for checkout.

If you would like to contribute — whether to help support the anniversary party or support the library in general — we will be pleased to speak with you. Please visit VAPLD.info/foundation to donate, volunteer, or contact us about other ways to give. Thank you.



Library 50th Birthday Celebration & Fundraiser

Friday, November 22, 7-9 pm

Adults | Tickets \$25

Celebrate 50 years of great library service in your community while helping to build for the next 50 years. Appetizers. Drinks. Raffles. Music. Fun craft activities.

Adults only. Purchase tickets online or at the library beginning in October.

Featured Resources *for adults*



NEW YORK TIMES ALL ACCESS

Get unlimited 24-hour access to the full world of *The New York Times* including news, games, cooking, Wirecutter, and The Athletic. Get started at [VAPLD.info/NYT](https://vapl.org/info/NYT)



RECOMMEND A PURCHASE

Is there something you'd like to check out that isn't in our catalog? Suggest it! We will add it to our shelves or get it for you from another library. [VAPLD.info/suggest](https://vapl.org/info/suggest)



ENGLISH CONVERSATION PARTNERS

Practice English in person or online with a local partner who speaks English. Improve your speaking skills, meet people, and learn more about life in America. Learn more at [VAPLD.info/LearnEnglish](https://vapl.org/info/LearnEnglish)

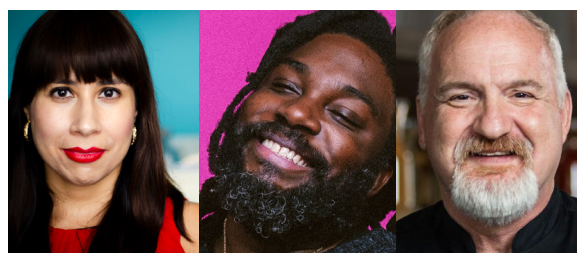
Classes & Events *for adults*

Note location with each event (🌿 outdoors, 🏠 indoors, 📺 online). Some events offer both in-person and streaming options for attendance. All events are free and open to all. Signup is required unless otherwise noted. Sign up at [VAPLD.info/calendar](https://vapl.org/info/calendar) or call 224-543-1485.

Illinois Libraries Present

Log in for live events with celebrated authors and cultural influencers. Sign up in advance to receive the Zoom link.

These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries. Funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).



From left to right: Sánchez, Reynolds, Smith

Being Imperfect with Erika Sánchez

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with the award-winning author of *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*.

Wednesday, October 9, 7–8 pm 📺

Raise Your Voice with Jason Reynolds GRADES 4 & UP

Award-winning author of the Track series (*Ghost*, *Patina*, *Sunny*, and *Lu*), *Stuntboy*, and other popular titles.

Tuesday, October 22, 7–8 pm 📺

Holiday Tips & Tricks with Chef Art Smith

Hear about Chef's culinary journey and bring some inspiration into your holiday season.

Wednesday, November 20, 7–8 pm 📺





American Songbook Hits, September 12

Outdoor Concert: American Songbook Hits

Hear hits from Frank Sinatra, George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, Ella Fitzgerald, and Louis Armstrong during this tribute to the Great American Songbook with Nostalgia duo Matt and Cynthia Gruel.

Thursday, September 12, 1–2 pm 🌿

Nonprofit Board Expo & Recruitment Event

Give back to your community by serving on a board. Learn what nonprofit mission-based organizations are looking for potential board members. Presented in partnership with Lake County Community Foundation and GiveNKind.

Wednesday, September 18, 6–8:30 pm 🏛️

Blood Drive

One blood donation can save up to three lives. Make an impact on our community by donating blood. Hosted by Versiti Blood Center of Illinois. Presented in partnership with Buffalo Grove Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce, Vernon Township, and Village of Lincolnshire. Sign up is recommended; walk-ins accepted if availability allows.

Thursday, September 19, 12–5 pm 🏛️

Nobody's Fool: Why We Get Taken In & What We Can Do About It

Learn how to recognize mis/disinformation to avoid spreading it unwittingly. Professor Dan Simons, co-author of *Nobody's Fool: Why We Get Taken In and What We Can Do About It*, explains how deception works and empowers you to become nobody's fool. Presented in partnership with The League of Women Voters of Illinois Mis/Disinformation Task Force and multiple Chicago libraries.

Thursday, September 19, 7–8 pm 2

Bird Walk at Daniel Wright Forest Preserve

Spot local and migrating birds during a nature walk with a birding expert from Red Hill Birding. See the colors, listen to sounds, and connect with nature.

Saturday, September 21, 9–10:30 am

🌿 Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve, Mettawa

Art Workshop: Chinese Paper Cutting

Learn the background of Chinese paper cutting, known as Jianzhi, and try some introductory paper cutting projects with educator Yvonne Wolf. No experience necessary.

Monday, September 23, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

The Farm to Table Impact

Become a more conscientious consumer by learning how farming practices impact what you buy at the grocery store, your health, and our environment with a local farmer and animal welfare expert and founder/CEO of Crate Free USA Jessica Chipkin.

Tuesday, September 24, 1–2 pm 🏛️

Professional Headshots

Make your social media and business pages stand out with a professional headshot. Come photo-ready to get your headshot taken and delivered to your email inbox. First come, first served. No signup required.

Wednesday, September 25, 11 am–2 pm 🏛️

Understanding Medicare Choices

Financial educator Karen Chan helps you make more informed decisions about Medicare. Learn when to sign up, compare plans, the types of medical expenses, and what additional insurance can fill the gaps.

Wednesday, September 25, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️ 2

Community Journalism & A Healthy Democracy

Explore how the stories and photos of community journalism shape our democracy with Chicago journalist Richard Cahan. Learn how local news helps citizens understand what's at stake in local elections, equips them to get involved in their community and holds public officials accountable.

Monday, September 30, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Election Literacy 2024: Election Integrity & Current Affairs

Meet the library's Political Scientist in Residence during her final lecture of this election year. Examine the policies that safeguard our elections and ensure that every vote counts, the value of opinion polls, and the impact of recent Supreme Court decisions.

Sunday, October 6, 1–2 pm 🏛️

My Fair Audrey: A Musical Tribute to Audrey Hepburn

From WWII refugee to Academy Award winner and UNICEF ambassador, Audrey Hepburn remains a beloved woman in history. Acclaimed Chicago cabaret artist Hilary Ann Feldman, along with pianist Beckie Menzie, perform a touching, funny, and enlightening tribute to this extraordinary woman.

Monday, October 7, 1–2 pm 🏛️

Election Literacy 2024: Virtual Town Hall with Political Scientist in Residence

Wednesday, October 16, 7–8 pm 

Gardening Can Be Murder with Author Marta McDowell

With deadly plants, razor-sharp shears, shady corners, and ready-made burial sites, gardens make an ideal scene for a murder mystery. Marta McDowell, writer, gardener, and avid mystery reader, explores the many ways in which writers find inspiration in the sinister side of gardening. Presented by multiple Illinois libraries.

Monday, October 21, 7–8 pm 



The Reintroduction of Native Americans into Illinois

Discover the captivating history and contemporary tribal customs of the Native American community in Illinois with Gerald Savage, a tribal elder with the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Wednesday, October 23, 1–2 pm 

A Survivor's Checklist: What to Do When a Loved One Passes Away

When a loved one passes away, surviving family members can feel overwhelmed with many tasks left for them. Prepare now by learning about what needs to be done and how to organize the process.

Thursday, October 24, 6:30–8 pm  

Parent Education: Talking it Out with Michael Brandwein

Learn specifics on what to do and say to improve family communication and teach your children (of all ages) essential skills for every day. Presented in partnership with local school districts 96, 102 and 103. No signup is required.

Thursday, October 24, 7–8 pm  Twin Groves Middle School

Mobile Passport

Apply for a new passport. Renew your old one. Get your passport photos. Bring necessary required documents.

Saturday, October 26, 9 am–1:30 pm 

Let the Good Times Roll: Retirement Fair

Discover local opportunities to help you prepare and enjoy your retirement in the areas of recreation, health/fitness, volunteering, and financial/legal planning. Enter to win drawing prizes, including a Lettuce Entertain You gift certificate and pickleball paddles.

Wednesday, October 30, 4:30–7:30 pm 

Moon Over Lincolnshire

See the beauty of the late fall sky through telescopes with members of the Lake County Astronomical Society.

Wednesday, November 6, 6:30–7:30 pm 

Monet Lives! A Portrayal of Claude Monet

Actor/painter Jim Parks portrays Claude Monet, telling stories of his struggles and obsessions, dishing about other Impressionists like Renoir and Degas, and portraying life in 1860s Paris.

Thursday, November 7, 1–2 pm 

How to Beat Imposter Syndrome

Learn about the different types of imposter syndrome, how to identify them, and strategies to overcome. This program is offered in partnership with the Lake Cook Career Collab.

Thursday, November 7, 7–8 pm 

Baking Galettes with Bill the Baker

Learn the secrets behind making the perfect galette — a rustic, free-form French tart made with a single pastry crust with baker Bill Reichman.

Monday, November 11, 7–8 pm 

Musical Tour of Ireland

Take a musical journey through Ireland—from Belfast to Dublin—with Belfast native and musician Ian Gould. He performs songs and provides a travelogue from various stops along the way.

Tuesday, November 12, 1–2 pm 

Traveling in Wild West Africa

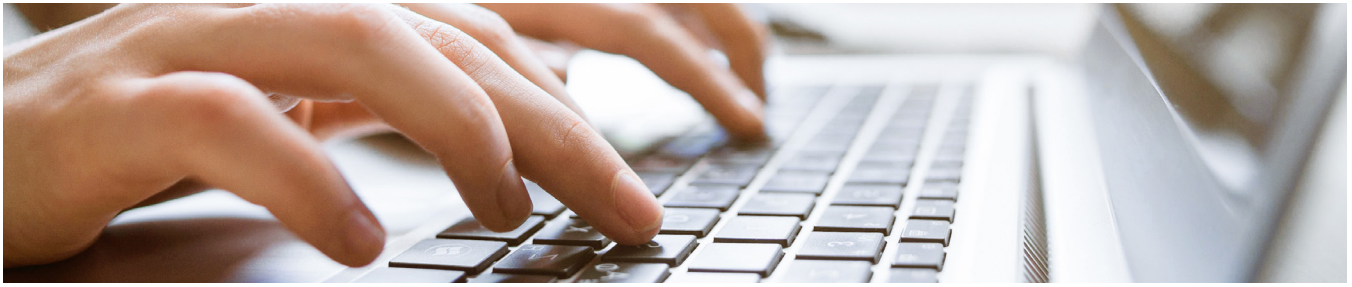
World traveler Brian Michalski shares gorgeous photos and fascinating first-hand experiences from his travels to west African countries.

Wednesday, November 13, 7–8 pm 

Shakespeare Project of Chicago Presents *Measure for Measure*

Shakespeare's dark comedy examines the complex interplay between law and justice, and forgiveness and mercy. The professional players of the Shakespeare Project of Chicago present a full, theatrical reading in the first of our 2024-2025 series.

Wednesday, November 20, 6:30–8:30 pm 



Computer Classes

Microsoft Word

Choose the sessions that interest you.

Thursdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

September 19: Basics

September 26: Working with Objects

Tuesdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

September 24: Formatting

October 1: Advanced Topics

Microsoft Excel

Choose the sessions that interest you.

Tuesdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

October 8: Basics

October 15: Formulas & Functions

October 22: Advanced Functions

October 29: Charts & Graphs

November 5: Pivot Tables

Microsoft PowerPoint

Choose the sessions that interest you.

Thursdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

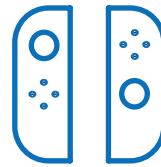
October 24: Ready To Go

November 7: Animations & Transitions

AI Tools Overview

Explore a variety of AI tools in this hands-on class. Learn how to use AI and what to expect from it. Try a chatbot, a photo generator, and other useful tools.

Tuesday, November 12, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️



Did You Know?

You can borrow tech to use at home! From laptops, mobile hotspots, scanners, outdoor movie kits, Rokus, VR sets, GoPros, and Nintendo Switch systems, see what's available at [guides.VAPLD.info/tech2go](https://guides.vapld.info/tech2go).

Makerspace Classes

Maker Class: Felt Box

Make your own felt box for storing jewelry, keys, or other knick-knacks. All supplies will be provided by the library.

Thursday, September 12, 6:30–8:30 pm 🏛️

Open Makerspace

Stop by to work on personalized gifts for the holidays. We won't be teaching any new skills, but supplies will be available for sublimation printing and other crafts.

Saturday, September 14, 2–4 pm 🏛️

Thursday, October 17, 6:30–8:30 pm 🏛️

Thursday, November 21, 2–4 pm 🏛️

Maker Class: Crochet a Pumpkin

Learn how to crochet a stuffed pumpkin with materials provided by the library. Class is suitable for all levels of crochet experience.

Thursday, October 10,

6:30–8:30 pm 🏛️



Maker Class: Sublimation Projects

Work on gifts for the holidays. Learn how to make personalized designs in Canva, then print them on a mug, ornament, tote bag, or tumbler.

Thursday, November 14, 6:30–8:30 pm 🏛️

Discussions & Meetups

English Language Learners Conversation Group

Practice your English conversation skills with a librarian and other non-native English speakers.

Tuesdays, 11 am–12 pm

September 10, October 1, November 12 

September 24, October 22, November 19 

Book Discussion with Judy Levin

Read and discuss intriguing selections beyond the best sellers.

Thursdays, 10–11:30 am 

September 12: *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese

October 10: *Kantika* by Elizabeth Graver

November 14: *Master Slave Husband Wife* by Ilyon Woo

Games for Grown-ups

Play tabletop games together online or at the library.

Sundays, 12:30–4:30 pm  


September 15, 29; October 20; November 17

Great Decisions Discussion Group

Professor Gary Midkiff leads discussion of topics from the Foreign Policy Association *Great Decisions* briefing book.

Wednesdays, 10:30 am–12 pm 

September 18, October 16, November 20

Fridays, 1–2:30 pm 

September 13, October 11, November 8

Reel Talk Movie Discussion

Use your library card to check out or stream the film in advance, then log in to share your thoughts.

Fridays, 3:30–4:30 pm 

September 13: *All the Beauty & the Bloodshed*

October 18: *Depraved*

November 15: *Macbeth* (2015)

Novel Night Book Discussion

Read and discuss.

Tuesdays, 7–8:15 pm 

September 17: *The House is on Fire* by Rachel Beanland

November 19: *The Flower Sisters* by Michelle Collins Anderson

Writers' Support Group

Share work, meet fellow writers, get constructive feedback, and discuss the publishing business in this informal group. All writers welcome.

Thursdays, 6:30–8:30 pm 

September 26, October 10, November 14

Thirsty Thursdays: Books on Tap

For readers in their 20s and 30s. See [Meetup.com](https://www.meetup.com) for details and signup.


Thursdays, 6–8 pm 

The Chatterbox, Long Grove

September 19, October 17, November 21

Off the Hook: Knit & Crochet Group

Craft in the company of other crafters, online. All skill levels welcome.

Mondays, 7–8:30 pm 

September 30, October 28, November 25

Memory Café - Buffalo Grove

Offering people with memory loss and their care partners activity and connection in a safe, supportive environment.

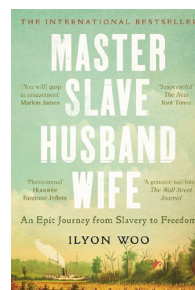
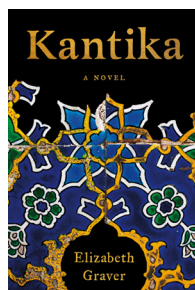
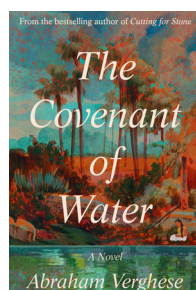
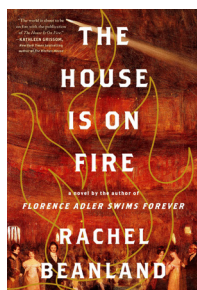
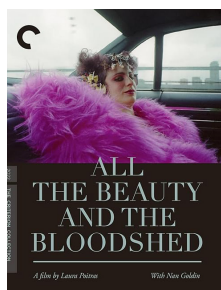
Thursdays, 2–3 pm  Alcott Center, Buffalo Grove

September 26, October 24, November 21

World Language Movie Discussion: *Train to Busan*

As an unidentified virus sweeps the country, Korean government declares martial law. Those trapped on an express train to Busan, a city that has successfully fended off the viral outbreak, must fight for their own survival during a zombie outbreak. Watch this acclaimed movie on Kanopy or Hoopla or check out the DVD. Then discuss with fellow international cinema fans.

Wednesday, October 30, 7–8 pm 



Vote Smart: Get Election-Ready

The Vernon Area Public Library Election Literacy series and Political Scientist in Residence program are intended to support robust civic participation through voter education and services.



Interview with Dr. Alexandra Filindra, Ph.D., Political Scientist in Residence

On November 5, U.S. voters will be asked to choose representatives to serve them in a variety of federal, state and local offices. Illinois voters will be asked to weigh in on a handful of non-binding advisory questions on their ballot, too.

As citizens prepare to take in information and decide on how they will cast their votes, we asked Political Scientist in Residence Alexandra Filindra, Ph.D., for advice about finding good information:

Q: Where can voters turn for unbiased information?

It's important to know that all sources of information have inherent biases. It's only human. We cannot help that it is part of our psychological make-up. We do it automatically. However, there are degrees of bias, and not all media sources are equal when it comes to objectivity.

One thing is for sure: social media is not a reliable source. Social media is part of the attention economy, where money is made by stirring emotions, not critical thinking. As a result, misinformation thrives there. It can be especially insidious when sites that promote disinformation camouflage as news sites with legitimate-sounding names. Remember: if a "news" site does not provide very clear information about its owners, editorial board, accreditation, and overall pedigree, it may be there to manipulate you, not inform you. Think twice.

Q: So where can we find more objective news sources?

Media scholars and professionals at the nonprofit Ad Fontes Media Project developed a bias ranking system for popular news outlets. They are transparent about their methodology, which uses more than 60 media analysts from a wide political spectrum to assess each source's reliability and political leaning. Their suggestions for fact-based and centrist news outlets include CBS and ABC, USAFacts, and BNO News, along with UPI, Reuters and Associated Press news agencies.

Q: What if you hear of a story about a political event or something a candidate did or said, and you want to know if it is truthful or accurate?

Snopes.com specializes in fact-checking everything from rumors or political statements. They generally do a very good job, and their work goes well beyond politics to stories about sports, entertainment, and more. FactCheck.org researches the evidence behind claims and provides detailed information to explain their assessments. PolitiFact.com was created by journalists at the *Tampa Bay Times* and won the Pulitzer Prize in 2009. Their service specializes in politics in many of the highly contested states and is very good at identifying online hoaxes. Reuters and Associated Press have their own fact-checking sites as well.

Help break the cycle of viral misinformation: before you repost something controversial or too good to be true, check first.

Given the growing number of false information pieces and fake news in the media ecosystem during this election season, checking in frequently with fact-checking sites is a good way to ensure that you are using solid, truthful information when making decisions on your November ballot.

Voter Information

The election authority in Lake County, Illinois, is the Lake County Clerk. Find thorough, accurate information about voting on their website at LakeCountyClerk.info. You can also find answers to the most common questions at guides.VAPLD.info/voting.

REGISTER. To vote in the general election, you must be registered. To qualify, you must be a U.S. citizen at least 18 years of age as of election day. You can register to vote at this library, at some government offices, or by mail.

REVIEW YOUR BALLOT. Not every voter in Illinois has the same ballot. Your ballot is unique to your voting precinct. It contains the state and local races specific to where you live. Preview your ballot at LakeVoterPower.info.

RESEARCH CANDIDATES & ISSUES. To follow news about the election you'll need access to the news. Your library card provides unlimited access to local and national newspapers. Find paper copies in the library or log on for paywall-free access through VAPLD.info/newspapers.

Want to research beyond the headlines? Some helpful resources include Ballotpedia.org for incumbent voting records or the Federal Election Commission (fec.gov) for a look at campaign contributions by individuals and organizations.

VOTE! Voters have many choices about how to cast a ballot: too many to detail here. Look for vote-by-mail, early voting, election day voting, and drop off box information at LakeCountyClerk.info.

Election Literacy 2024

Psychology Behind Political Decisions

How do people make decisions about voting?

Sunday, August 25, 1–2 pm 🏛️

Nobody's Fool: Why We Get Taken In & What We Can Do About It

Learn to recognize mis/disinformation and avoid spreading it.

Thursday, September 19, 7–8 pm 🗣️

Community Journalism & A Healthy Democracy

Local news: informing citizens and holding elected officials accountable.

Monday, September 30, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Election Integrity & Current Affairs

Examine the policies that safeguard our elections and ensure that every vote counts.

Sunday, October 6, 1–2 pm 🏛️

Election Trivia & Conversation for Stevenson Students

Test your knowledge of the upcoming election for fun and prizes. Then discuss the election questions that matter most to you. Earn civic participation credits.

Sunday, October 6, 3–4 pm 🏛️

Virtual Town Hall with Political Scientist in Residence

Submit questions in advance or online during this moderated conversation with our local expert.

Wednesday, October 16, 7–8 pm 🗣️

Some helpful hints:

★ When you go to vote, your signature will need to match the one on your voter registration. If you have a "nice" signature and a messy one, be sure to remember which one you used when you registered!

★ Voting by mail? The US Postal Service recommends returning your ballot as early as possible, at

least one week before Election Day.

★ Voting in person? Bring a photo ID. While it's not required to vote in Illinois, it is helpful to have if your identity is challenged.

★ You may bring notes into the voting booth with you — even your sample ballot.

★ Do NOT take a selfie while voting — it is against the law to take photos in the polling place. Instead, take a photo with your "I voted!" sticker after you leave the building.

★ As long as you are in line to vote by 7 p.m. on Election Day, you are allowed to vote.



Be a Lifelong Learner

School is back in session, but you don't need to spend your days in a classroom to learn something new. Whether you're a fan of nature and science writing, histories, or memoirs, lose yourself in these fascinating nonfiction reads.

The Natural World

The Light Eaters
by Zoë Schlanger

Bite by Bite
by Aimee Nezhukumatathil

A Walk in the Park
by Kevin Fedarko

The Backyard Bird Chronicles
by Amy Tan

The Recent Past

Challenger
by Adam Higginbotham

When Women Ran Fifth Avenue
by Julie Satow

When the Sea Came Alive
by Garrett M. Graff

Hip-Hop Is History
by Questlove

The Lives We Live

Did I Ever Tell You?
by Genevieve Kingston

Between Two Trailers
by J. Dana Trent

An Unfinished Love Story
by Doris Kearns Goodwin

The Wives
by Simone Gorrindo

Expanded Access to E-Books

Collaboration with Digital Library of Illinois adds almost 300,000 items

You now have access to 280,000 more e-books and digital audiobooks, plus new digital magazines, as the Digital Library of Illinois (DLIL) added content to the library catalog on July 1.

The Digital Library of Illinois is the largest consortium in the state for digital material on OverDrive, the leading digital reading platform for libraries and schools worldwide.

By joining, you have access to triple the offerings of e-book and audiobook titles and the number of copies available for checkout increased from 17,134 to more than 300,000.

This means more choice and shorter waits for popular materials, such as current bestsellers *The Women* by Kristin Hannah or *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride.

"We are excited to provide patrons with access to more content, and more quickly," said Library Director Anne Rasmussen. "This agreement allows us to expand the breadth and depth of our digital offerings, decrease hold times on popular materials, and deliver better value for taxpayers by sharing materials with our neighbors."

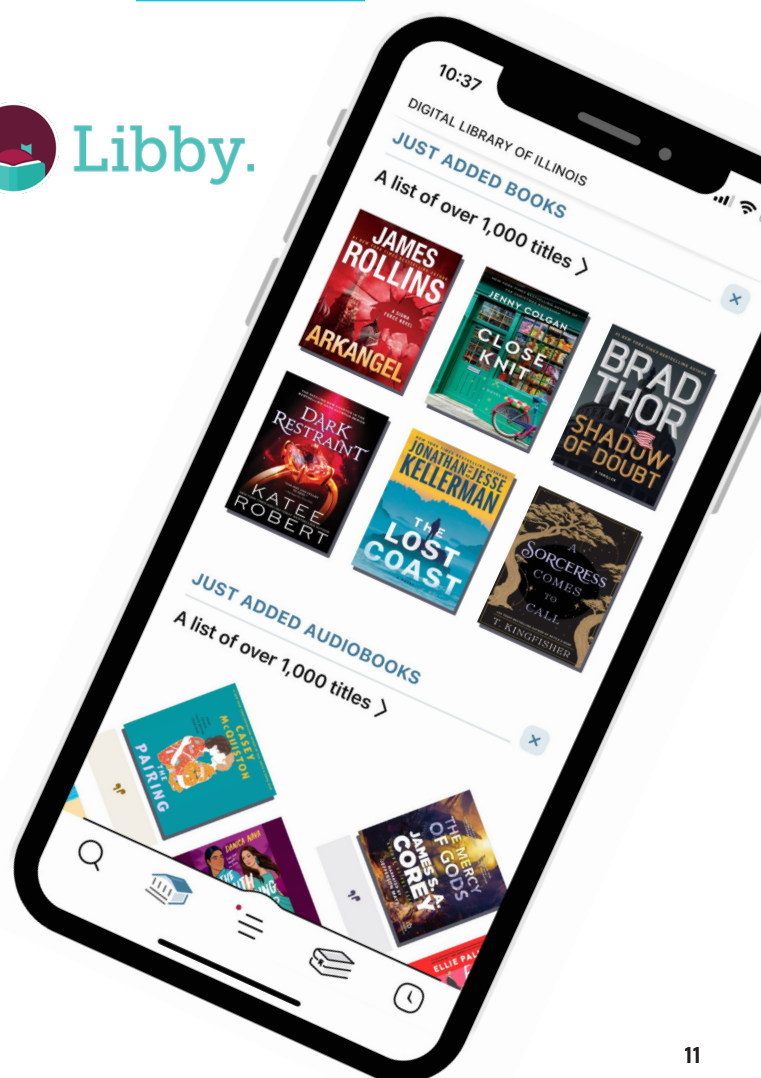
What Does This Mean for Me?

- More choices in what you read or listen to than ever before
- Shorter wait times for popular materials
- Access to a new collection of digital magazines

The upgrade provides you with a new collection of digital magazines, including popular periodicals covering news and politics, health and fitness, food and cooking, crafts, sports, and other subjects.

If you are an e-book or audiobook reader, you can continue to access OverDrive materials through your browser or on Libby, the popular and free e-reading app that is already familiar to library e-book readers.

New to the digital book world? Get started by downloading the Libby app and signing in with your library card. Or access on the web at [DLIL.overdrive.com](https://dlil.overdrive.com).



Classes & Events *for teens*

Note location with each event (🌿 outdoors, 🏠 indoors, 📺 online). All events are free and open to all.

Signup opens 30 days before the program and is required unless otherwise noted. Sign up at [VAPLD.info/calendar](https://vapl.org/calendar) or call 224-543-1486.

Art Workshop: Skyline Collage GRADES 6-12

Create an original design using mixed materials.

Monday, September 9, 7-8 pm 🏠

Cook Along with Chef Kristyn GRADES K-8

Add some fun to a Friday night by cooking along with the group from home on Zoom.

Fridays, 7-8 pm 📺

September 13: Sweet & Savory Nachos

October 18: Desserts in Disguise

November 8: Fall Favorites

Art Workshop: Chinese Paper Cutting GRADE 6 & UP

Learn the background of Chinese paper cutting, known as Jianzhi, and try some introductory paper cutting projects with educator Yvonne Wolf. No experience necessary.

Monday, September 23, 7-8:30 pm 🏠

Off the Page: A Teen Book Club GRADES 8-12

Get a copy of the book to keep and custard (our treat!).

Mondays, 7-8:15 pm 🏠 Culver's, Lincolnshire

September 16: *Thieves' Gambit* by Kayvion Lewis

October 21: *She is a Haunting* by Trang Thanh Tran

November 18: *Lunar New Year Love Story* by Gene Luen Yang

Teen Service Club GRADES 7-12

New volunteer group for teens. Meet new people, participate in a variety of community-service projects, and earn volunteer service hours when it fits your schedule. No application, no training, and no library card needed.

Wednesday, September 25, 6-7 pm 🏠

Monday, November 11, 4:30-5:30 pm 🏠

Election Literacy 2024: Election Trivia & Conversation for Stevenson Students GRADES 9-12

Test your knowledge of the upcoming election in a trivia-style challenge with the library's Political Scientist in Residence. Earn credit towards civic participation assignments for College Prep Government classes.

Sunday, October 6, 3-4 pm 🏠

Rebecca Caudill Award Book Discussion GRADES 6-8

Discuss *A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga. A copy of the book (yours to keep) is reserved when you register.

Monday, October 7, 7-8 pm 🏠

Teen Take & Make: Spooky Terrarium GRADES 6-12

Make your own Spooky Terrarium using mini-figures, moss, and other items. Each kit contains supplies and instructions. Reserve beginning 30 days in advance.

Pick up beginning Friday, October 11

Raise Your Voice with Jason Reynolds

Hear from award-winning author of popular books like *Ghost*, *Stuntboy*, and *Stamped*.

Tuesday, October 22, 7-8 pm 📺

Pumpkin Dioramas GRADES 6-12

Get ready for spooky season! Create a miniature scene inside a foam pumpkin to add to your Halloween decor.

Wednesday, October 23, 7-8 pm 🏠

Parent Education: Talking it Out with Michael Brandwein

PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12

Learn specifics on what to do and say to improve family communication and teach your children (of all ages) essential skills for every day. Presented in partnership with local school districts 96, 102 and 103. No signup is required.

Thursday, October 24, 7-8 pm 🏠 Twin Groves Middle School

3D Printing: Articulated Animals GRADES 6-12

Learn how to take a regular 3D animal and turn it into an articulated 3D print with moving parts. Choose either the 5 pm or 7 pm session.

Monday, October 28, 5-6 pm or 7-8 pm 🏠

Popsicle Stick Engineering GRADES 6-8

Put your creative and engineering skills to the test! Have fun completing different building challenges and problem solving different questions using popsicle sticks and binder clips.

Monday, November 25, 7-8:15 pm 🏠



Featured Resources *for elementary-aged kids*



FREE OR DISCOUNTED TICKETS TO SELECT ILLINOIS CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

Browse for passes by date or attraction. Destinations include Chicago Children's Museum, Glencoe Beach, & the Museum of Science & Industry. Visit VAPLD.info/museum-passes



RESEARCH

Explora is a go-to resource for students doing research for reports or projects. Find encyclopedia articles, news and magazine stories, bibliographies, and images on a wide range of topics. Geared toward K-5 school content. Begin at VAPLD.info/exploraES



HOMEWORK HELP

Get help with school work and test prep by connecting live with subject specialists daily at Tutor.com. For grades 1-12 & adults. Powered by The Princeton Review. Get started at VAPLD.info/tutor

Classes & Events *for elementary-aged kids*

Note location with each item (🌿 outdoors, 🏛️ indoors, 📺 online). All events are free and open to all.

Signup opens 30 days before the program and is required unless otherwise noted. Sign up at VAPLD.info/calendar or call 224-543-1486.

Family Concerts **ALL AGES**

Enjoy performances by nationally acclaimed children's musicians.

Saturdays, 11–11:45 am

September 7: Alina Celeste & Mi Amigo 🌿

October 5: Miss Jamie's Farm 🏛️

Fall Weather Science **GRADES K-2**

Explore a timely earth science topic through a variety of hands-on science activities.

Tuesday, September 10, 4:30–5:15 pm 🏛️

Intro to Little Bits Circuits **GRADES 3-5**

Learn how real-world technology works and create your own invention with littleBits circuits. Sign up for either the 4:30 pm or the 7 pm session.

Wednesday, September 11, 4:30–5:30 pm or 7–8 pm 🏛️

Take & Make Craft Kits **ALL AGES**

Stop by the library each month for instructions and supplies to make a craft. Available while supplies last beginning:

September 13: Celebrate Hispanic Heritage

October 14: Celebrate Sukkot

October 25: Celebrate Diwali

Cook Along with Chef Kristyn **GRADES K-8**

Add some fun to a Friday night by cooking along with the group from home on Zoom.

Fridays, 7–8 pm 📺

September 13: Sweet & Savory Nachos

October 18: Desserts in Disguise

November 8: Fall Favorites

Improv Playhouse presents: Knights of the Group Project **GRADES K-5**

Ladies of the Lake, wizards, knights and... an English class presentation?!? Four friends from Improv Playhouse dice roll, quest, and battle in this interactive, educational romp through the story of King Arthur.

Saturday, September 14, 11–11:45 am 🏛️

Create Art with Miss Jane **GRADES K-5**

Follow along step-by-step in painting a beautiful sunset aspen painting celebrating the changing leaves and seasons.

Tuesday, September 17 🏛️

Grades K-2: 4:30–5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 7–8 pm

Bluestem Award Book Discussion GRADES 3-5 W/ADULT

This parent-child book group will discuss *Weird Kid* by Greg Van Eekhout. Pick up a copy of the book (yours to keep) at the Youth Desk.

Thursday, September 26, 7-8 pm 🏛️

Chinese Calligraphy Workshop GRADES K-5

Explore Chinese culture through calligraphy and traditional stories. Presented in partnership with Stevenson High School National Chinese Honor Society.

Tuesday, October 1, 6-7:30 pm 🏛️

Mindfulness Art Journal GRADES K-5

In support of World Mental Health Day, Miss Jane leads a few art exercises, including a step-by-step exercise in drawing your breath. Each participant will receive their own art journal to practice mindfulness and creativity.

Tuesday, October 8 🏛️

Grades K-2: 4:30-5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 7-8 pm

Singing Bird and the Importance of Native American Women in the Culture GRADES K-5

Learn how the lives of Native women affected their families and the history of Illinois through an interactive experience with award-winning Ojibwa author and 2024-25 Illinois Humanities Road Scholar Kim Sigafus for Native American Heritage Month. Pick up and view items women used, learn native language and music, and get the chance to play the drum.

Monday, October 14, 4:30-5:30 pm 🏛️

Lego Master Builders GRADES K-5

Work through several challenges then let your imagination run wild during free-building time. Choose either the 4:30 pm or 7 pm session.

Tuesday, October 15, 4:30-5:30 pm or 7-8 pm 🏛️



Chinese Calligraphy Workshop, October 6

K9 Reading Buddies GRADES 1-5

Build confidence and encourage literacy as you read aloud to a trained therapy dog. Sign up for a 10-minute spot beginning 30 days before the program by calling 224-543-1486 or visiting the Youth Desk.

Wednesdays, 6:15-7:15 pm 🏛️

October 16, November 13

Monarch Award Family Book Discussion GRADES K-2

Read *Every Night is Pizza Night* by J. Kenji López-Alt together, share your thoughts, and enjoy a related craft.

Tuesday, October 22, 6-6:45 pm 🏛️



Bats!, October 29

Raise Your Voice with Jason Reynolds GRADES 4 & UP

Hear from award-winning author of popular books like *Ghost*, *Stuntboy*, and *Stamped*.

Tuesday, October 22, 7-8 pm Z

Parent Education: Talking it Out with Michael**Brandwein PARENTS OF STUDENTS IN GRADES K-12**

Learn specifics on what to do and say to improve family communication and teach your children (of all ages) essential skills for every day. Presented in partnership with local school districts 96, 102 and 103. No sign-up is required.

Thursday, October 24, 7-8 pm 🏛️ Twin Groves Middle School

Bats! GRADES K-5

Meet one of the most beneficial and misunderstood of all animals: the bat! Experience bats first-hand with Flying Fox Conservation Fund. Learn where they live, what they eat, and the vital contribution they make to our ecosystem.

Tuesday, October 29, 6:30-7:30 pm 🏛️

STEM Storytime GRADES K-2

Featuring a story and a variety of related STEM activities.

Monday, November 4, 4:30-5:15 pm 🏛️

Big Blue Blocks Play Date ALL AGES

Build and play using the library's big blue blocks. No sign up required.

Tuesday, November 5, 9:30–11 am 🏠

Exploring Great Artists: Roy Lichtenstein GRADES K–5

In conjunction with Mini Comic Con, learn about American artist Roy Lichtenstein, one of the pioneers of the pop art movement. Create your own 3D collage masterpiece inspired by Lichtenstein's onomatopoeia pop art.

Wednesday, November 6 🏠

Grades K-2: 4:30 pm–5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 7–8 pm

Moon Over Lincolnshire ALL AGES

See the beauty of the late fall sky through telescopes with members of the Lake County Astronomical Society.

Wednesday, November 6, 6:30–7:30 pm 🌿

Dinovember with the T-Rexplorers GRADES K–5

Get excited about science and nature during this interactive program with authentic dinosaur bones. Meet special guest Ranger at 6:15 pm in the main parking lot before the program starts!

Thursday, November 7, 6:30–7:30 pm 🏠

Diwali Dance Celebration GRADES K–5

Learn traditional Diwali dance steps then practice your moves in a group celebration.

Saturday, November 9, 11 am–12 pm 🏠

Mini Comic Con ALL AGES

Visit VAPLD.info/minicomiccon for details.

Saturday, November 16, 10 am–3 pm 🏠

Lego Robotics GRADES K–5

Build and program the Airplane Rescue model using the Lego Education WeDo software in this fun, hands-on program.

Tuesday, November 19 🏠

Grades K-2: 4:30–5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 7–8 pm

Popsicle Stick Engineering GRADES 3–5

Put your creative and engineering skills to the test! Have fun completing different building challenges and problem solving different questions using popsicle sticks and binder clips.

Monday, November 25, 4:30–5:45 pm 🏠

Dinovember Science GRADES K–5

Get hands-on to explore dinosaurs, their adaptations, and their fossils.

Tuesday, November 26 🏠

Grades K-2: 4:30–5:15 pm

Grades 3-5: 7–7:45 pm



Diwali Dance Celebration, November 9



Baby Rhyme Storytime

Classes & Events *for early childhood*

Drop In

It's easier than ever to make storytime part of your family's weekly routine. Drop in for the session that's right for your child's age. Claim an entry ticket when you arrive, then join the fun!

Baby Rhyme Storytime 0-14 MONTHS

Grow your baby's brain with songs, rhymes, and books with Miss Kelsey. Then connect and socialize with other new parents while your baby plays with educational toys.

Wednesdays, 9:30–10:15 am 🏛️

September 4, 11, 25; October 2, 9, 23; November 6, 13, 27

Starry Night Storytime AGES 0-6

Get out those last few wiggles during an evening storytime with Miss Julia.

Thursdays, 6–6:30 pm 🏛️

September 5, October 3, November 21

Preschool Storytime AGES 3-5

Get ready for school with Miss Emily by practicing the language, listening, and pre-reading skills needed for kindergarten. Children attend without an adult.

Thursdays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏛️

September 5, 12, 19; October 3, 10, 17; November 7, 14, 21

Together 2s & 3s AGES 2-3

Share stories and learn sign language with Miss Sarah. Activities center around a letter of the day.

Mondays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏛️

September 9, 16, 23; October 7, 14, 21; November 11, 18, 25

Wiggling Ones 12-24 MONTHS

Add 30 minutes of joy to your week. Giggle, sing, and play along with your little one, other families, and Miss Julia.

Tuesdays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏛️

September 10, 17, 24; October 1, 8, 15; November 12, 19, 26

Saturday Storytime AGES 0-6

Literacy begins at the library! Expert librarians use books, songs, and props to capture the attention of all ages.

Saturday, October 19, 10–10:30 am 🏛️

Monster Mash Bash AGES 3-5

Feeling slightly spooky? Join Miss Emily and Miss Julia for stories, songs, and dancing at the Monster Mash Bash. Costumes encouraged!

Tuesday, October 29, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏛️

Big Blue Blocks Play Date ALL AGES

Build and play using the library's big blue blocks.

Tuesday, November 5, 9:30–11 am 🏛️

Sign Up in Advance

Free and open to all. For these storytimes and events, sign up 30 days in advance at VAPLD.info/calendar, by telephone at 224-543-1486 or at any public service desk in the library. Note location with each item (🌿 outdoors, 🏛 indoors, 📺 online).

Evening Stories with Miss Emily **AGE 3–GRADE 2**

Put on pajamas and relax with a bedtime story.
Sign up for each month separately.

Wednesdays, 7–7:30 pm 📺

September 4, 11, 18; October 2, 9, 16; November 6, 13, 20

Science Detectives **AGES 3–6**

STEM-themed stories and activities with Miss Lisa Marie.

Fridays, 10–10:30 am 🏛

September 6, October 4, November 1

Family Concerts **ALL AGES**

Enjoy performances by nationally acclaimed children's musicians.

Saturdays, 11–11:45 am

September 7: Alina Celeste & Mi Amigo Hamlet 🌿

October 5: Miss Jamie's Farm 🏛

Mini Math Magicians **AGES 3–5**

Explore math concepts through books, games and activities with preschool pro Miss Emily.

Thursdays, 10–10:30 am 🏛

September 26, October 24

Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin **AGES 0–6**

Read stories and sing songs in Mandarin and English with Miss Laura.

Friday, September 27, 10–10:30 am 🏛

Saturday, November 23, 10–10:30 am 🏛

Sunshine Squad **AGES 0–6**

Stories and activities focused on social-emotional development and cultural appreciation make the world a kinder, sunnier place for everyone.

Saturdays, 10–10:45 am 🏛

September 28: You Are Special

November 30: Take a Breath

Tinker Around **AGES 3–6**

Explore and play with some of the screen-free tech options the library offers for checkout.

Friday, October 18, 10–11 am 🏛

Oaks & Acorns Storytime **AGES 0–5**

Bring your little acorn to a very special storytime at a local assisted living facility. Home residents join an intergenerational experience that brings joy to everyone through songs, stories, and instruments.

Tuesday, October 22, 10–11 am

🏛 Offsite: Sunrise of Buffalo Grove

Lil' Trick-or-Reading **AGES 0–2.5**

Costumes welcome at this scary-less Halloween storytime followed by a trick-or-treating parade through the library.

Monday, October 28, 9:30–10:15 am or 11–11:45 am 🏛



Science Detectives



Vernon Area Public Library
300 Olde Half Day Rd.
Lincolnshire, IL 60069-2901

Connect

VAPLD.info

Main: 847-634-3650

Text: 847-565-6457

App: Look for Vernon Area Public Library in your device's App Store

Get a Library Card

Free and available to all district residents. Apply online at VAPLD.info/card or visit.

Returns

Return materials 24/7 to the drive-up slot on the front of the library or at these drop boxes:
VAPLD.info/bookdrops

Open

Monday-Thursday 9 am – 9 pm
Friday-Saturday 9 am – 5 pm
Sunday 10 am – 5 pm

Before-hours access is available daily for people who prefer a "mask required" environment. See VAPLD.info or call 847-634-3650 for info about special operating hours.

Closed

September 1-2, Labor Day holiday
September 20, Staff Training
November 27, closing early at 5 pm
November 28, Thanksgiving

*This magazine is printed on recycled paper
made of 30% post-consumer waste.*



▲ Check this out

September is Library Card Signup Month! This powerful card unlocks a world of exploration with access to books, e-books, audiobooks, movies, museum passes, WiFi hot spots, memory kits, video streaming services, STEM kits, pickleball kits, and more! Need a card? District residents can sign up at VAPLD.info/card or in the library.